and speed of passenger/goods local trains imported;

(c) what amount of investment/foreign exchange involved in this transaction and amount already invested in India by ABB so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Ministry of Railways have no comments to offer in respect of report published in the Hindustan Times dated 20th October, 1992, as it relates to the Press Conference addressed by the representatives of M/s. ABB.

(b) (i) Does not arise.

(ii) The Advance letter of Acceptance to M/s. ABB also involves transfer of technology to India.

(iii) Does not arise as import involved is for electric locos and not for passenger/goods local trains.

(c) The amount of foreign exchange involved in the purchase of 6000 HP 3 phase electric locomotives alongwith transfer of technology and supply of special tools, Jigs, fixtures, maintenance spares and testing kits etc. on FOB basis in Swiss Francs—169,689,970 and Deutsche Marks—139,140,250. Ministry of Railways have no comments to offer regarding amount already invested in India by ABB so far.

Book Stalls on Railways

2530. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per policy letter No. 73/TG III/461/9/IMP Delhi-14-10/1980 & 73 TG III/461/9/IMP/PTI dated 24th February, 1984, the existing book stall contractor of unemployed graduate partnership firm have the right to get upto 12 book stalls on the Railways;

(b) whether it is a fact that in response to the advertisement, various applications received from unemployed graduates including partnership firms and interview was held on 19th October, 1992 by the Screening Committee for award of book stall contract at Anand Vihar Station; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not deciding the case on merit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir. As per Policy, Zonal Railways may allot additional book stall (s) beyond five but upto a ceiling limit of 12 to individual partnerships of unemployed graduates without obtaining prior approval of Ministry of Railways subject to satisfactory performance of the partnerships.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In response to press advertisement dated 11-8-1992 notified by Delhi Division, for award of a Book stall contract at Anand Vihar station, 7 candidates applied who were invited for an interview. Only 3 candidates appeared before the Screening Committee, and none was found to be suitable.

अलाभकर रेलवे लाइनों को लाभकर बनाया जाना

2531. श्री मूलचन्द मीणा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अलाभकर रेलवे लाइनों को लाभकारी लाइनों में परिवर्तित करने की कोई योजना बनाई गई है; यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि धौलपुर-सरमथुरा मीटर गेज लाइन के कारण रेलवे को हानि हो रही है; यदि हां तो उसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार इस लाइन को लाभकारी बनाने के उद्देश्य से इस रेलवे लाइन को सरमथुरा से गंगापुर शहर तक जोड़ने का विचार रखती है, यदि हां तो ऐसा कब तक किया जाएगा; और